

the Office of Photography. Dolly has displayed great passion for her work and dedicated herself to ensuring the needs of her customers were met with great enthusiasm.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Dolly for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Dolly many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF  
JOHN R. FECHKO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of John R. Fechko, devoted husband, father, friend, public servant and United States Veteran. Mr. Fechko's commitment to the safety of the residents of Seven Hills defined his 35 years of outstanding public service as a police officer, S.W.A.T. team member, and as Seven Hills Chief of Police for the past 20 years.

Mr. Fechko was a 1964 graduate of Parma Senior High School. Following graduation, he served in Vietnam with the United States Marine Corps. In 1969, he joined the Seven Hills Police Department as a patrol officer. Mr. Fechko was promoted to sergeant in 1981, and in June of 1984, he was instated as Police Chief of Seven Hills.

Mr. Fechko's dedication to his career extended beyond the borders of Seven Hills. He was always willing to help an individual, family or neighboring community in need. He handed down his safety experience and expertise to cadets in training at the Cleveland Police Academy—a role he held for 31 years. Additionally, Mr. Fechko was a lead initiator of the Tri-City task force. This vital program focused on educating residents about key safety community issues, including gang activity, intervention of at-risk youths, and juvenile crime prevention.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mr. John R. Fechko. As police officer and Police Chief of the Village of Seven Hills, Mr. Fechko dedicated his professional life to the safety of his officers and the security and safety of the entire Seven Hills community. I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Suzanne; his beloved son, Craig; his sister, Diane; and also to his extended family and many friends. His legacy of protecting others will live on within the hearts and memories of his family, friends, and the public he so faithfully served, today and for all time.

COMMENDING THE SAN MATEO  
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CANINE  
UNIT FOR EXCELLENT  
COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize the tireless work of

the forty-four year old San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit, as it continues to serve the people of San Mateo County. As the longest running canine unit in the state of California, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit is the only such unit in San Mateo County to provide full time patrol coverage, twenty-four hours a day, seven days per week.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit was founded by Sergeant Bill Sweeney in 1961 with the purchase of three German shepherd dogs. Since its meager beginnings, the Canine Unit currently maintains twelve highly trained canine teams, which have various specialties. Each canine is trained in and performs general patrol practices such as obedience, handler protection and suspect searches. These canine teams are also assigned to and trained in expert detection of narcotics, tracking and explosives.

Over four decades of service, the Canine Unit has located hundreds of wanted felony suspects, uncovered tons of narcotics, and performed numerous explosive detection sweeps for United States' presidents, Senators, Representatives and foreign dignitaries.

In addition to protecting the citizens of San Mateo County, the Canine Unit also performs an average of thirty canine demonstrations per year for community and church groups, and middle and elementary schools. I became acquainted with this excellent Unit and its myriad accomplishments and abilities at one of these superb demonstrations.

On October 16, 2004, in conjunction with the public opening of "Art that Speaks for Homeless Pets," an art exhibit by animal rights activist and artist Cyrus Mejia, and photographer Clay Myers, at the San Mateo County History Museum, my wife Annette and I had the pleasure of attending one of these demonstrations. The Canine Unit brought five impressively trained German Shepherds to illustrate the precision and professionalism with which both the canines and their officers carry out explosive and narcotic detection.

I'd like to recognize the capabilities of the five teams that successfully entertained and educated the attendees:

Deputy Andy Armando and K9 Ando  
Deputy Rod Larmour and K9 Abe  
Deputy Todd Finato and K9 Vito  
Deputy Keith James and K9 Haus  
Deputy Sean O'Donnell and K9 Colt.

While I am an adamant animal lover and animal rights activist in my own right, indisputably, I was not the only spectator captivated by the animals discipline and sweetness. Indeed, all individuals in attendance were astonished and delighted to see the work of these loyal, well-trained canines and their equally dedicated officers.

According to Sergeant Mark M. Duri, Bomb Technician and Canine Trainer, the goal of these demonstrations is to educate the public of the great service the twelve canine and handler teams provide for San Mateo County. Moreover, the demonstration also functions to educate younger school children on the dangers of drug abuse and entanglement.

It is with gratitude to the long standing quality of service and protection provided for the residents of San Mateo County, that I sincerely commend the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit's continued excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIBERTY  
AMENDMENT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Liberty Amendment, which repeals the 16th Amendment, thus paving the way for real change in the way government collects and spends the people's hard-earned money. The Liberty Amendment also explicitly forbids the federal government from performing any action not explicitly authorized by the United States Constitution.

The 16th Amendment gives the federal government a direct claim on the lives of American citizens by enabling Congress to levy a direct income tax on individuals. Until the passage of the 16th amendment, the Supreme Court had consistently held that Congress had no power to impose an income tax.

Income taxes are responsible for the transformation of the federal government from one of limited powers into a vast leviathan whose tentacles reach into almost every aspect of American life. Thanks to the income tax, today the federal government routinely invades our privacy, and penalizes our every endeavor.

The Founding Fathers realized that "the power to tax is the power to destroy," which is why they did not give the federal government the power to impose an income tax. Needless to say, the Founders would be horrified to know that Americans today give more than a third of their income to the federal government.

Income taxes not only diminish liberty, they retard economic growth by discouraging work and production. Our current tax system also forces Americans to waste valuable time and money on compliance with an ever-more complex tax code. The increased interest in flat-tax and national sales tax proposals, as well as the increasing number of small businesses that question the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) "withholding" system provides further proof that America is tired of the labyrinthine tax code. Americans are also increasingly fed up with an IRS that continues to ride roughshod over their civil liberties, despite recent "pro-taxpayer" reforms.

Mr. Speaker, America survived and prospered for 140 years without an income tax, and with a federal government that generally adhered to strictly constitutional functions, operating with modest excise revenues. The income tax opened the door to the era (and errors) of Big Government. I hope my colleagues will help close that door by cosponsoring the Liberty Amendment.

BILL TO PERMIT BETTY DICK TO  
CONTINUE USE OF HER HOME IN  
GRAND COUNTY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill to permit Ms. Betty Dick to continue her use and occupancy of a house located within Rocky Mountain National